20th October 1927]

(d) No.

(e) The Government has no reason to suppose that such promotions are given as a matter of practice as suggested in the question. But such cases have occurred—vide the answer to clause (a) (iii) of question No. 521.

Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed:—"May I ask the hon. Member as to whether he will be pleased to investigate into the reasons why such disparity exists between the representatives of the various communities in the district?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"The Government do not propose to make any special enquiry. Returns are received every year and when they are examined the question is considered then whether any action is necessary."

Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will take immediate steps to remove this disparity at least now?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"I do not think any further steps are necessary than those already taken."

Corporation of Madras

Alleged insult to the President of the Corporation of Madras.

*730 Q.—Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state— 11-45 a.m.

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. J. Venkatanarayana Nayudu, the Commissioner of the Corporation of Madras, had, after the termination of the Council meeting held on 9th August 1927, used offensive and improper language to the President of the Corporation while the latter was about to enter his car in the presence of councillors and the office and menial staff for having read out at the meeting of the Council a statement prepared by Dr. Mallayya based on an inspection of the Tondiarpet Isolation Hospital in the company of the President;

(b) whether it is a fact that the President called on the hon. Minister for Public Health immediately after the occurrence and reported to him the details of the insult offered to him; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take notice of the conduct of Mr. Nayudu, the Commissioner?

A.—(a) The Government are not aware of the incidents mentioned in the clause.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar:—"May I ask the hon. the Minister for Public Health with reference to the answer to clause (a) whether the incident stated therein tallies with the oral representation made to him by the President when he called upon him immediately after the incident had occurred?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"I think the answer is here. The President did make the complaint, but I told him that I would not take any action unless an official complaint in writing was made."

[20th October 1927

Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar :—" I ask, Sir, whether the oral representation tallies with the incidents as have been stated in clause (*a*)."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" I cannot vouch for the fact that the language was offensive and improper, but he said it was objectionable."

Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar : —" Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to permit the President to institute criminal proceedings for an offence under the insult section against the Commissioner ? "

* The hon. the President :—" I want to know how the supplemental question is intended to elucidate the answer given. How does permission to institute criminal proceedings arise out of this ? "

Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar :—" It arises out of clause (*c*). The question is whether the Government propose to take notice of the conduct of Mr. Nayudu, the Commissioner ? The answer thereto is, no. I want the Minister to tell us whether he will permit the President to institute criminal proceedings against the Commissioner because it arose out of an official transaction and he is an officer of the Government deputed by the Government."

* The hon. the President :—" The question does not arise I would advise the hon. Member to give notice of a separate question."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government why Government do not take any steps in view of the admission in clause (*b*) that the President called on the hon Minister for Public Health and reported the details of the incident to him ? In view of the answer which admits the insult, may I ask why the Government do not take any notice ?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" For the simple reason that the President did not choose to come to the Minister in charge even after the hon. the Minister for Public Health told him that it would be better for him to put it in writing."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" Does the hon. Minister want that it should be put in writing when the President of the Corporation of Madras goes to him in person and reports to one of them ? Is it because they consider that he is untrustworthy and that his words cannot be given any weight and so they insist on his putting it into writing just as the police do ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I do not mean that it should be a complaint. It may be an official communication."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" Should it be in writing ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" All official communications are in writing, Sir."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" Did the Government take any pains to get themselves acquainted with it ? "

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—" May I know if the Commissioner himself has made any statement in the matter personally or in writing ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" No."

20th October 1927]

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister for Public Health what the President actually told the Minister ? "

* The hon. the President :—" The answer is that the Government are not aware. Perhaps the hon. Minister wants to make the distinction between his personal capacity and the Government."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" May I know, Sir, then if the President of the Corporation of Madras saw the hon the Minister in the Secretariat rooms or in his bungalow ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" In my bungalow, Sir."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" Did he see the hon. Minister as Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar or as the hon. Minister for Public Health ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" I am not sure what was in my mind at the time."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" With reference to clause (*b*), Sir, may I know what are the details of the insult offered to him which the President reported to the hon. Minister for Public Health immediately after the occurrence ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" I do not remember it exactly except this. I thought the President told me that the language used was not proper and that it was objectionable."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" In view of that statement, may I ask the hon. the Minister for Public Health or the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government why they considered it necessary that the Commissioner should be allowed to be going about insulting the President and why they do not propose to take any action ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" The answer is that Government are not aware of any such insult."

* The hon. the President :—" I think really there is some difficulty in the matter. Standing Order 11 (i) says : A question addressed to a Member of the Government must relate to the public affairs with which he is *officially* connected, or *to a matter of administration* for which he is responsible. From the answers it is clear that the hon. Minister for Public Health was the person approached by the President. I think the hon. the Minister for Public Health is not the person officially connected with the Commissioner of the Corporation. Therefore any conversation that took place between the President of the Corporation and the hon. Minister for Public Health cannot be taken as one that took place between them in their official capacities. If the hon. Members are so willing, it is better to address further questions on the point to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government if any such conversation took place."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" Then may I take it that there is no connexion between the Commissioner and the Government in respect of this matter ? "

* The hon. the President :—" Yes, that is the reason why they say there is no complaint to the Government."

6

[20th October 1927

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"May I make a submission? If the Commissioner of the Corporation is an officer of the Government whose conduct has to be enquired into . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"His conduct ought to have been brought to the notice of the Minister for Local Self-Government and not the Minister for Public Health."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"In answer to clause (c) they say the Government do not propose to take notice of the conduct of Mr. Nayudu. Is it, in the opinion of the Government that it is a trivial matter to insult the President, the honorary President of a big City like the Corporation of Madras?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"For the simple reason that they are not aware of any such insult."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"With regard to officers above a certain status, is it not a fact that the complaints should be followed by a resolution of the local bodies concerned?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I submit, Sir, that this is a question which does not arise and it is also a hypothetical question."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"Now that the Government are aware of the insult offered to the President of the Corporation, will they now at least take the trouble to enquire into the matter?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The answer is that the Government are not aware."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"After the interpellations and discussions, at least now will the Government take the necessary action?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I maintain that even now Government are not aware of any such insult."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"None so blind as those who will not see."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"There are certain details . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon Member is making a speech."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to make an enquiry and tell us what the incidents are?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"No, Sir."

Local Boards

Nomination of Christians to represent the Hindu depressed classes in local boards and municipalities.

* 736 Q.—Mr. S. VENKAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no representation of the Adi-Andhras in the Gudivada Union Board, Kistna district;

(b) if the Government are aware that there is no such representation, what steps have they taken to remedy the defect;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the nomination of Christians to represent the Hindu depressed classes in local boards and municipalities;